Privately Produced News Bulletins on Doordarshan

1340. DR. C. NARYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any decision that privately produced news bulletins shall not be telecast on DD-1;

(b) whether there are any exceptions to it and are there any Doordarshan Kendras in India wherein privately produced news bulltins are allowed to be telecast on DD-1; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor: and the guidelines evolved to ensure authenticity;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Prasar Bharati Board has resolved that Doordarshan will not give any news based programmes on DD-1 to any private producer until a policy decision is taken to the contrary. The only exception is a privately produced news programme of M/s. Rainbow Communications, Calcutta which is currently being telecast in the regional service of DDK, Calcutta under orders of the Calcutta High Court. Prasar Bharati has moved both the Calcutta High Court and the Supreme Court against the verdict of High Court. The matter is sub-judice.

Slots to State Governments for Communicating Their Policies/Programmes

1341. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allot slots for certain time on a week to the State Governments for cummunicating their policies and welfare programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the action proposed for such social communication programmes;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that there is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Policies and activites, including Welfare programmes of the State Governments, are regularly highfighted in Regional News bulletins telecast by the various Kendras of Doordarshan.

Telecast of Programmes in Various Indian Languages

1342. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prasar Bharati is telecasting programmes in all Indian languages under constituion;

(b) if so, details of hours of telecasting of each language in the National Network and the Regional Kendra, language-wise;

(c) why Urdu has been neglected by Prasar Bharati;

(d) whether Prasar Bharati is aware that Urdu is the mother tongue of more than 100 million people in India; and

(e) whether Prasar Bharati will ensure that Urdu will receive equal treatment with other languages and increase the programmes and telecasting time in Urdu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prasar Bharati has reported that such records are not maintained centrally in a compiled from.

(c) to (e) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that Urdu has not been neglected by them. News bulletins in Urdu are telecast daily on the Metro